

into the violation of the Codes, the Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the Act. The Committee either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaints, examines cases of violation of the Codes. If any violation is noted by the Committee, action is taken against the TV channel. Till date 203 show cause notices have been issued against 83 TV channels for violation of the Codes. Other actions like warnings have been issued to 23 channels, 13 channels have been warned and asked to run an apology scroll, 1 channel has been taken off the air and advisory issued to 4 channels. Govt. has constituted a committee to review the Programme and Advertising Codes and the Guidelines under Cinematograph Act.

New cable rates

1704. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether TRAI has revised new cable rates at the rate of Rs. 5 per months as MRP for pay channels in "CAS" areas and Rs. 77 for 30 free-to-air channels from January, next year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that TRAI's rate is on higher side as compared to the pay channel rate of Rs. 1 in Pakistan, when Pakistan has only 4 million cable homes and in India we have 62 million;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to reduce the above mentioned rates; and
- (d) whether TRAI has also stipulated any time bound complaint redressal system so that if complaints are not redressed within stipulated time, the viewer should get a refund in his monthly subscription?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a tariff order on 31.8.2006 for CAS areas, which among other things, has fixed a ceiling on MRP for pay channels at Rs. 5/-/month/connection excluding taxes, and a tariff of Rs. 77/month/connection, excluding taxes for basic service tier which include a minimum of 30 Free to Air Channels.

(b) In para 5.25 of the Explanatory memorandum attached with the tariff order of TRAI dated 31.08.2006, it has been stated that neither CAS nor DTH has come to the Pakistan market. Accordingly, individual pricing of channels in an addressable system has not yet been attempted there.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. Clause 4 & 6 of the Quality of Service regulations issued by TRAI have provisions relating to complaints handling and redressal in respect of cable services in CAS areas. The regulations are available on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in.

Pay-TV Piracy

1705. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether pay-TV piracy is reportedly rising in Asia and estimated to cost the industry \$ 1.13 billion in 2006, a 6.6 per cent increase from 2005;

(b) whether according to study report by Cable and Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CAS-BAA), of 11 Asian countries, India remains to be region's biggest loser to pay-TV piracy, which is expected to cost the industry \$ 685 million;

(c) if so, the amount "Pay-TV Piracy" would lead to tax revenue losses to India in US dollars during 2006 as compared to 2005; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) There is no authentic source which projects Pay TV piracy figures in India. However, as per the Cable and Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) report, Pay-TV piracy is one the rise and India's pay TV revenue leakage figure has been estimated to be US \$ 685 million in net losses. No figures regarding tax revenue losses in India due to 'Pay TV Piracy' has been estimated by the Government of India.

(d) As per the CASBAA Report on Pay TV piracy, most of the pay TV revenue leakage is reported to be due to under reporting by last mile cable operators. The problem of under reporting can be tackled by introduction